

### FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D. C. 20554 AUG 1 1 2004

OFFICE OF MANAGING DIRECTOR

Kenneth Ripley
Vice President
Fort Stockton Radio Company, Inc.
Gaines County Broadcasting, LLC
954 S. US Highway 385
Fort Stockton, TX 79735

Re: FY 2003 Regulatory Fees for KFST AM and FM, KIKZ and KSEM Fee Control No. 00000RROG-04-060 Bill No. 0320001067

Dear Mr. Ripley:

This is in response to your letter dated April 30, 2004, filed on behalf of radio stations KFST AM and FM, KIKZ, and KSEM for waiver of the late payment penalty associated with the fiscal year (FY) 2003 regulatory fees for the four stations. Our records reflect that your \$1,850 for the total regulatory fees was received by the Commission on September 26, 2003, but that we have not yet received your late payment penalty of \$462.50.

You explain in your request that you attempted twice to pay the fees in a timely manner on September 24, 2003 on the FCC's on-line fee filer program, but that the fee filer program was inoperative at the time. You state that you mailed your regulatory fees to the Commission, postmarked by the deadline but not received by the Commission until September 26, 2003, one day late.

The Commission's rules are clear that licensees are required to pay to the Commission an annual regulatory fee in a timely manner. It is the obligation of the licensees responsible for regulatory fee payments to ensure the Commission receives the fee payment no later than the final date on which regulatory fees are due for the year. See 47 C.F.R. §1.1157; see also Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2003, Report and Order, 18 FCC Rcd 15, 985 (2003) (2003 Report and Order); 47 U.S.C. §159. The Commission issued public notices announcing the date on which the FY 2003 regulatory fees were due. See Public Notice, Regulatory Fees Due September 24, 2003, DA 03-2557 (July 30. 2003); Public Notice, Federal Communications Commission Extends the Filing Deadline Date of FY 2003 Regulatory Fee, DA 03-2907 (Sept. 22, 2003) (extending deadline to September 25, 2003).

As we indicated in a letter to you dated June 18, 2004, we have confirmed that the fee filer program was down for several hours on September 24, 2003. However, the program was available later that same day and again on September 25, 2003, the final day of the filing period. As we also indicated, you could have filed your fees as early as August 11, 2003.

The Communications Act of 1934, as amended, requires the Commission to assess a late payment penalty of 25 percent on any regulatory fee not paid in a timely manner. We find that Fort Stockton Radio Company, Inc. did not meet its obligation to file its regulatory fees to be timely received by the Commission by September 25, 2003, the final date of the regulatory fee filing window for FY 2003. We therefore deny your request for waiver of the penalty for late payment of your FY 2003 regulatory fees.

A late payment penalty in the amount of \$462.50 for FY 2003 is now due. The payment must be filed, together with a copy of Bill No. 0320001067, within 30 days from the date of this letter. If you have any questions concerning this matter please contact the Revenue and Receivables Operations Group at (202) 418-1995.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Reger

Chief Financial Officer

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4-30-04

Fort Stockton Radio Co., Inc. Gaines County Broadcasting, LLC KFST AM/FM, KIKZ/KSEM 954 S. US Hwy. 385 Fort Stockton, TX 79735 MAY 2 1 2004
FCC-MAILROOM

Mark A. Reger
Chief Financial Officer
Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
445 12<sup>th</sup> St. S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Sir:

This letter is concerning a notice of late penalties on 2003 annual regulatory fees, bill number 0320001067.

I had contacted the office of Revenue and Receivables Operations Group immediately upon receipt of the letter to resolve this matter on March 8, 2004. I have contacted them a total of threetimes by telephone and left a message each time. Finally, I received a return phone cell April 29, 2004 from that office. They directed me to you regarding this matter.

I am requesting a waiver of the late fees stated in the letter as being \$462.50. The reason for the request is as follows: I attempted twice to pay the fees in a timely manner on September 24, 2003 in your on-line fee filer program. The fee filer program was inoperative at the times I attempted payment on-line. After two attempts were made to pay the fees in a timely manner via the internet, I decided to mail the fees to the Federal Communications Commission. The postmark will reveal that the fees were mailed by the deadline. However, they were received on September 26, 2003, one day late. My plans were to pay the fees through the fee filer in a timely manner. I do not believe the failure in the fee filer program was my fault and therefore am requesting a waiver of the late penalties.

Please notify me of your decision in this matter regarding KFST AM/FM, KIKZ, and KSEM radio stations.

Sincerely.

Kenneth E. Ripley, Vice Pres. Ft. Stockton Radio Co., Inc.; Gen. Partner, Gaines Co.

Broadcasting, LLC

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Tay on Time
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(t) DSG, Inc.

Bill Processing

Document Number 0320001067

FRN

0003783487

GAINES COUNTY BROADCASTING, LLC

F1 NEXT

6/16/2004 ARIPNLO

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	Add/Modify Bill	ing Information	
Document Number	0320001067		
FRN DDD	13763 <del>46</del> 7	GAINES COUNTY BROADCASTING	, LLC
Bill Date	10/01/03	Bill Amount	\$462.50
Bill Type		Bill Paid	\$0.00
Bill Due Date 10	0/31/03	Bill Balance Dum	\$462.50
Dunning Indicator	: Bill Cycle	Interest Due	\$0.00
Referral Code	₩ Waiver	Penmity Due	\$0.00
Print Seq # DD022	362 Waiver Date	Admin Chg Due	\$0.00
Transaction Date	D6/16/D4 Acct Period	09 <u>*</u> Total Due	\$462,50
Bill Description	Assess penalty for l	ate regulatory fee	***********
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		UND PROG ORG PRO. 18 90 9500 065	
Accounting Classi	ification Code 2003		0199
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BILL EXISTS - YOU ARE IN MODIFY MODE - PRESS FS TO EXIT

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#### Add/Modify Billing Information

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Bill Date	10/01/03	Bill Amount	\$462.50		
Bill Type	FINE	Bill Paid	\$0.00		
Bill Due Date 1	3/31/03	Bill Balance Due	\$462.50		
Dunning Indicator	: Bill Cycle	▼ Interest Due	\$0.00		
Referral Code	Waiver	Penalty Due	\$0.00		
Print Seq # 00022	362 Waiver Date	Admin Chg Due	\$0.00		
Transaction Date	05/16/04 Acct Period	09 Total Due	\$462.50		
Bill Description	Assess penalty for 1	ate regulatory fee			
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PAGE 1 6/16/2004 12:50:27

\$1,850.00

CD No.	CD DATE	FEE CONTRO	L No.	FRN	PAYER	NAME		TRANSACTION DATE	RECEIPT AMOUNT
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Applicant	: 0323 Name: FORT 954 5 US HV	STOCKTON	1 call sign QTY: RADIO CO INC	n: KFSTAM FCC 1 Applied Amt:	Code 1:	450.00	FCC Code 2:		Tin Number:
Applicant	: 0341 Name: FORT 954 S US HW	STOCKTON (		n: KFSTFM FCC 1 Applied Amt:		475.00	FCC Code 2:		Tin Number:
Applicant		ES COUNTY E	3 Call Sign QTY: BROADCASTING LL	n: KIKZ FCC 1 Applied Amt: .C	Code 1:	450.00	FCC Code 2:		Tîn Nummber:
		ES COUNTY E	4 Call Sigr QTY: BROADCASTING LL	n: KSEM FCC 1 Applied Amt: .c	Code 1:	475.00	FCC Code 2:		Tin Number:

\$1,850.00

Total Receipt:

Total Applied:



# Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

March 3, 2004

GAINES COUNTY BROADCASTING, LLC 954 South Hwy. 385 Fort Stockton, TX 797359801

Re: Bill No. 0320001067

#### Dear Licensee:

This letter is notice that you were late paying your 2003 annual regulatory fee(s). Payment of regulatory fees was due to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) by 11:59 pm, September 25, 2003. Your fee payment of \$1,850.00 was received on September 26, 2003.

In accordance with Section 9 [47 USC 159(c)(1)], a 25 percent late penalty in the amount of \$462.50 has been assessed. Unless you can show just cause why the penalty is inapplicable, payment is due within 30 days from the date of this letter.

Payment should be sent to the Federal Communications Commission, Regulatory Fees, P.O. Box 358340, Pittsburgh, PA 15251-8340, along with a copy of the enclosed billing invoice.

If you have any documentation that will establish that the fee was remitted and received at Mellon Bank by September 25, 2003, such as a carrier dated receipt, please include this documentation with your response and your record(s) will be adjusted accordingly.

You are cautioned that failure to respond and/or pay the penalty will subject you to further sanctions as defined in 47 CFR, Section 1.1164 of our Rules. These sanctions include subjecting the delinquent payer's pending applications to dismissal, and may require a delinquent payer to show cause why any existing instruments of authorization should not be revoked. Further sanctions include interest charges and the full cost of collection to the Federal government pursuant to Section 3720A of the Internal Revenue Code, 31 USC 3717, and the provision of the Debt Collection Improvement Act, 31 USC 3717.

If you have any questions, you may contact my office at (202) 418-1995.

Sincerely,

Claudette E. Pride, Chief

Revenue and Receivables Operations Group

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Enclosure

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# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D. C. 20554

JUN 1 8 2004

OFFICE OF MANAGING DIRECTOR

Kenneth E. Ripley
Vice President
Fort Stockton Radio Company, Inc.
Gaines County Broadcasting, LLC
KFST AM/FM, KIKZ/KSEM
954 S. US Hwy. 385
Fort Stockton, TX 79735

Re: Bill No. 0320001067

Dear Mr. Ripley:

This letter is in response to your inquiry of April 30, 2004, regarding a bill from the Federal Communications Commission for late payment of your FY 2003 Regulatory Fee.

Our research has confirmed that the fee filer program was down for several hours on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September, 2003. However, it was available later in the day and again on September 25, 2003, the last day of the filing window. Please be aware that the entities could begin paying their regulatory fees as early as August 11, 2003.

We understand that once you were unable to file on-line, you decided to mail your regulatory fee in an attempt to have it filed timely, and by doing so the payment was received one day late. However, our rules state that "A timely fee payment ...is one received at the Commission's Lockbox bank by the due date specified by the Commission or by the Managing Director." The payment has to be received by the due date, not postmarked by the due date.

We have forwarded your waiver request to the Office of General Counsel for further review. Once a decision has been rendered, you will receive a written response.

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Sincerely.

Mark Reger

Chief Financial Officer